Q and A: Your Questions, God’s Answers

**Can I Trust the Bible?**

**2 Timothy 3:15-17**

**July 23, 2023**

* This is God’s Word.
* It is a perfect treasure of divine instruction.
* It has God for its author,
* salvation for its end,
* and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter.
* It is the supreme source of truth
* for what we believe
* and how we live.

**“I pledge allegiance to the Bible, God’s Holy Word and will make it a lamp unto my feet, a light unto my path, and hide it’s word in my heart that I might not sin against God.”**

**“We believe the Bible is God’s perfect Word. We believe the Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is God’s revelation of Himself to man. It is a perfect treasure of divine instruction. It has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter. Therefore, all Scripture is totally true and trustworthy. It reveals the principles by which God judges us, and therefore is the supreme source of truth for Christian beliefs and living.”**

**Can I Trust the Bible?**

**How can we believe the entire Bible is true? Aren’t there contradictions? How can we know each writer was “inspired by God?”**

**You have been taught the holy Scriptures from childhood, and they have given you the wisdom to receive the salvation that comes by trusting in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work. 2 Timothy 3:15-17**

**Make them holy by your truth; teach them your word, which is truth. John 17:17**

**Above all, you must realize that no prophecy in Scripture ever came from the prophet’s own understanding, or from human initiative. No, those prophets were moved by the Holy Spirit, and they spoke from God. 2 Peter 1:20-21**

**How Did We Get Our Bible?**

**The prophets did not think these things up on their own, but they were guided by the Spirit of God. 2 Peter 1:21 (CEV)**

**The books of the Old Testament were accepted by the Jews as God’s Word well before 256 B.C. That’s when the Hebrew Old Testament was translated into Greek.**

**The early Church formally ratified the 27 books of our New Testament at the Council at Hippo in 393 A.D. and the Council of Carthage in 397 A.D.**

**“One thing must be emphatically stated. The New Testament books did not become authoritative for the Church because they were formally included in a canonical list; on the contrary, the Church included them in her canon because she already regarded them as divinely inspired, recognizing their innate worth and generally apostolic authority, direct or indirect… what these councils did was not to impose something new upon the Christian communities but to codify what was already the general practice of those communities.” F.F. Bruce**

**“A fallible church chose what we believe is an infallible list of books that comprise our Bible.”**

**Anonymous**

**What Evidence Do We Have That the Bible**

**Is The Word of God?**

* **Historic Evidence**
* **Scientific Evidence**
* **Prophetic Evidence**
* **Thematic Evidence**
* **Evidence of Changed Lives**

**Has the Holy Spirit used God’s Word**

**to point you to Jesus?**